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Rana Sanaullah stops police from arresting Shahbaz Gill's driver



Hamza challenges SC order removing him as Punjab CM

COAS recognises deep-rooted ties between Pakistan, UK at Sandhurst passing-out parade

SANDHURST Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa on Friday recognised the deep-rooted ties between Pakistan and the United Kingdom, expressing the hope that relations between the two countries would reach "historic heights" in the future.

The army chief made the remarks while attending the passing-out parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst where he was the chief guest.

The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS) is one of several military academies of the United Kingdom and is the British Army's initial officer training centre.

All British Army officers, including late-entry officers who were previously Warrant Officers, as well as other men and women from overseas, are trained at the academy. Sandhurst is the British Army equivalent of the Britannia Royal Naval College and the Royal Air Force College Cranwell.

Due to the pandemic, the army chief had not visited the academy over the last cou-ple of years, but had been a regular visitor



each year since he took over as head of the

army.

Today, the COAS began his address by saying that it was a "great honour and privilege" for him to be present during today's

He congratulated the cadets and their families on successfully completing their training at the academy, saying: "You are part of one of the finest militaries in the world that has produced great military leaders"

leaders".

"Two Pakistani cadets will also be graduating with you today and let me say that I am as proud of you as I am of them," he told the graduating cadets.

Gen Bajwa said that his presence at the academy today bore "testimony" to the "deep-rooted relationship" shared by Pakistan and UK "based on mutual respect and shared values". "Similarly, the bond between the two armed forces is uniquely special and has been kept alive over the years through close professional contact in years through close professional contact in training and other military activities," he remarked. The COAS, moving on to address the passing out cadets, highlighted

that there would be great responsibilities and expectations associated with them henceforth. The journey ahead of you is both challenging and exciting. As you grow, the demand for professionalism will also increase, he said, pointing out that no one was born with professional knowledge rather that to be acquired with constant pursuit. "Without it you can not achieve professional confidence which is the hallmark of successful military leadership," Gen Bajwa stated, adding that decision-making was also very important. "You need to have the will to take decisions and accept full responsibility. That will require confidence and competence." Gen Bajwa concluded his speech by

Gen Bajwa concluded his speech by wishing the cadets the best for their future and hoped that they would serve their countries with honour, dignity and pride. After the speech, he also inspected the cadets and chatted with them.

The COAS had arrived in UK early on Thursday morning. During his visit, he is also expected to call on the military leadership of the UK. Web Desk

Buledi lashes out at Gill in presence of PTI ministers

Staff Reporter

QUETTA: Former senior minister of Balochistan, Mir Zahoor Buledi has lashed out at Shehbaz Gill in presence of Pakistan Tehrik e Insaf (PTI) ministers during the provincial assembly ses-sion on Friday evening.

"I strongly condemn Gill's remarks about national institutions", Mr. Buledi who belongs to the ruling Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) told the house. The session of the Balochistan Assembly resumed here with acting speaker Sardar Babar Musakhail in the chair.

BAP and PTI are in an

leader's statement'

alliance in Balochistan. Although, the latter has parted ways with the for-mer in the federal government. Members from the treasury and opposition spoke about issues relating to Balochistan and underlined the need for a

solution. "None can tolerate PTI

again appeared in the house and wanted to respond to Mr. Buledi's remarks about his party's leader. Buledi pointed out the lack of quorum and the chair subsequently adjourned the session as most members from the treasury and opposition were absent from the ses-

BNP lawmaker con-demns police raids in

Sariab

Balochistan National
Party (BNP) lawmaker,
Ahmed Nawaz Baloch
strongly condemned
police raids in the Sariab
area of Quetta and
demanded of the government to take notice of this. He said without fulfilling any legal require-ment, police were con-ducting raids in his con-stituency.

"If someone had committed any crime, they should be produced before the court of law", Mr. Baloch demanded. He said police and law enforcement agencies should follow the rules

while conducting raids.
Pashtoonkhwa Milli
Awami Party (PKMAP)
member, Nasrullah Khan Zairai and BNP's Akhtar Hussain Langove also asked the chair to allow them to speak on issues relating to Balochistan However, the chair asked them to speak in another

Quetta Karachi highway closed for heavy traffic after floods

Manan Mandokhail

Quetta Karachi highway was blocked for heavy traffic on Friday as flash floods unleashed by heavy rainfall floods unleashed by heavy rainfall swept away Lunda bridge in the Uthal area of Lasbela district. The fresh spell of monsoon has wreaked havoc in the Lasbela, Killa Abdullah and Killa Saifullah districts of Balochistan.

"We have stopped heavy traffic on Quetta Karachi highway", Dawood Khilji, the Commissioner Kalat Division said in a statement. He said the highway was opened for small vehicles. Mr.

was opened for small vehicles. Mr. Khilji however cautioned the people to avoid unnecessary traveling on the high-way, which links Balochistan with Sindh

Flash floods completely swept away Lunda bridge at Uthal tehsil of Lasbela district. However, no human loss was



reported as a result of the damage.

The death toll rose to 182 in Quetta and other parts of Balochistan because of floods and heavy rainfall. The dead include 56 children, 45 women and 81 men, the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) sources told Daily Quetta Voice.

The floods have also left around 1000 people injured across Balochistan.

house. However, Mr. Marri Pakistan Army should not be made 'controversial', says President Alvi

"None can tolerate PTI leader's statement", the former senior minister of

Balochistan said. As he stood at his seat, the PTI

ministers including Naseebullah Marri and Mobeen Khilji left the

President Dr Arif Alvi on Friday called upon political par-ties to refrain from bringing the Pakistan Army into political discourse, saying the military was the guarantor of national security and "it should not be made controversial"

The president's statement comes days after PTI leader Shahbaz Gill was arrested by the Islamabad police on charges of sedition and inciting the public against the state institutions, following his controversial remarks about the armed forces on a news

Speaking to reporters at the Governor House in Lahore today, Dr Alvi said that there was a need to initiate a "consultative process" to bring all the impor-tant stakeholders of the country to a negotiation table.

'However, the constitutional role of a president does not allow him to officially reach out to the stakeholders

Dr Alvi stated that it was the primary responsibility of the government, opposition, and all the other relevant institutions to deliberate upon defusing the ris-



ing polarisation in the country. He said political parties and stakeholders needed to sit together and chalk out a way forward, especially with regard to holding free and fair elections and developing a charter of econ-omy that could help ease out the current political and economic situation.

"Everyone will have to think about the situation we are currently embroiled into.

The president also offered to mediate between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and PTI Chairman Imran Khan "for the sake of the country"

"It will be my endeavor to reduce tensions between the two leaders and make the environment feasible for early elec-

Also read: No harm in appointing next army chief ahead of time: President Alvi

Dr Alvi stressed that a conflict between the federal government and provinces was unfavourable for the country, stressing that it should be settled.

He added that he had been "reminding all the stakeholders that the things are not right".

The president went on to say that he had also been informing Imran about the management issues in Pakistan, adding that "he had his own viewpoint over the matter.'

He also stressed that stakeholders within Pakistan should only be involved in hammering out issues confronting the country without any involvement of any foreign persons or a country.

During the talk today, the president insisted that he had a very cordial relationship with the incumbent government, saying he accorded timely approval to

He also revealed that he held more discussions with the incumbent prime minister as compared to lmran.

Separately, the president highlighted corruption as "a major reason for the backwardness of

any country".
"One of the best ways to counter corruption is to make all financial transactions through formal banking channels, espe-cially when it comes to political parties while receiving and man-

aging donations," he suggested. Dr Alvi opined that 90 per cent of social media was "good" as "it provides huge chunk of information and we should learn to deal with the remaining 10pc by fil-tering out fake news and hearsay".

The president said he was the main proponent of electronic voting machines since long even during the governments of the PPP and the PML-N.

"It was me who convinced the

"It was me who convinced the PTI for the use of technology during elections. Web Desk

Rana Sanaullah stops police from arresting Shahbaz Gill's driver

"The sanctity of the house should be aken into account during the raid," says

Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah pre-vented the inspector-general (IG) of Islamabad Police from raiding Bani Gala to arrest PTI leader Shahbaz Gill's

oriet.

PTI senior leader and party chairperson Imran Khan's aide Gill was taken into custody for inciting the public against state institutions, a spokesperson of the Islamabad police said on August 9. Sources privy to the matter said that Akbar Nasir to get the details related to Gill's case. Sanaullah stopped the inspector-general from arresting Gill's driver, said the sources. He also expressed his displeasure over the arrest of the driver's wife.

On Thursday, the police took the wife of Gill's driver in custody after they raided the latter's residence to recover the PTI leader's mobile phone for investigation in the sedition case being pursucd against him.

IG Nasir said that the driver is in Bani

Gala and a raid needs to be carried out to arrest him. To this, Sanaullah said that the residents of Bani Gala should be taken into confidence regarding the

The PML-N leader directed the inspector-general in case of any non-cooperation, adding that permission should be taken before the raid.

"The sanctity of the house should be taken into account during the raid, and the law should be strictly followed while arresting the driver and collecting the evidence," he added. Web Desk

Hamza challenges SC order removing him as Punjab CM

ISLAMABAD Former chief minis-ter Punjab Hamza Shahbaz on Friday challenged the Supreme Court order which set aside the Punjab Assembly deputy speaker's ruling which discarded ten votes of the Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q), thus leading to Hamza's victory as the provincial chief executive Hamza, through Mansoor Awan, filed a review petition in the apex court against the July 26 order which thwarted former deputy speaker Dost Mohammad Mazari's decision and declared Pervez Elahi as the new CM of the country's political challenged the Supreme Court order the new CM of the country's political heartland. The PML-N leader prayed that a full

court be constituted to decide the matters involving the interpretation and application of Article 63A of the Constitution in this regard, as well as other connected matters and that they are heard together by the full court or at least a 12-member bench. The

review petition submitted that without "prejudice, the order, by holding that directions of the Parliamentary Party sans any role of the Party/Party Head is binding", contradicted the apex court's ruling dated May 17, 2022, on Article 63A given in Presidential Reference No. 1 of 2022 wherein the SC extended the right of a political party under Article 17(2) to Article SC extended the right of a political party under Article 17(2) to Article 63A, and arrived "at the conclusion that a vote contrary to the party policy is to be disregarded and not counted". It further maintained that the opinion of the SC in the presidential reference was contrary to the letter of Article 63A and that votes polled contrary to the directions could not be disregarded. "The Petitioner further submits that the opinion of this Honourable Court in Presidential Reference No. 1 amounts to rewriting. Reference No. I amounts to rewriting the Constitution, which is impermissi-

Arshad Nadeem bags gold medal for Pakistan at Islamic Solidarity Games

KARACHI Nadeem Friday bagged a gold medal for Pakistan at the 2022 Islamic Solidarity Games in Konya, Turkey with a games record throw of 88.55m — his second gold medal in less than a

Arshad was in a commanding position since the start of his event on Friday. In his first attempt,

Nadeem was able to throw the javelin at a distance of 79.40 metres, followed by metres, metres, 82.40 metres, and 83.33 metres. The 88.55m throw was

his best and also a new record for the Islamic Solidarity Games.

Following his win, Nadeem went to the stands where he was greeted by



Association Olympic Association (POA), Pakistan Sports Board (PSB), and Athletics Federation of Pakistan (AFP) were also there to cheer for the champion ath-lete Last week, the athlete made the nation proud as he bagged a gold medal during the javelin throw competition at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham Web Desk

BGC contributing US\$ 150,000 for flood affectees in Balochistan

News Desk

QUETTA: Barrick Gold Corporation (NYSE: GOLD)(TSX: ABX) is contributing US\$150,000 to Balochistan's Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) to support its relief efforts in the wake of unprecedented floods in the region. Remote communities in the province were hardest hit by the heavy monsoon rains which killed more than 500 people in

In a phone call today with the province's chief minister, Abdul Quddus Bizenjo, Barrick President and Chief Executive Mark Bristow expressed the company's condolences on the loss of life and suffering inflicted on the people of Balochistan.

He said the contribution to the emergency fund was a demonstration of the spirit of partnership in which Barrick, Balochistan and Pakistan had embarked on the reconstitution and restart of the Reko Diq project, which holds one of the world's largest undeveloped copper-gold deposits. Balochistan will have a 25% fully funded share in the project (10% free car-



ried and 15% to be funded by the federal government). Pakistani state-owned enterprises will hold another 25% and Barrick, with 50%, will operate the mine.

"Balochistan will benefit enormously from its stake in the mine. Even before construction starts, once the legalization process has been completed and the project reconstituted, we will start implementing social development programs representing an estimated investment of US\$70 million over the senting the project of th construction period. In addition, Reko Diq will advance royalties of up to US\$5 million in the first year, up to US\$7.5 million in the second and up to US\$10 million thereafter until construction starts," Bristow said.

During peak construction, the project is expected to employ approximately 7,500 people and once in production, it will create 4,000 full-time jobs. Its policy of local procurement will stimulate the development of a robust local economy.

"Reko Diq has an estimated life of at least 40 years, so it will be generating substantial benefits for its Balochistan stakeholders for generations to come." Bristow said

ers for generations to come," Bristow said.

QUETTA VOICE Editor Asim Khan Torrential rain exposed

drainage system in Quetta

Torrential rains badly exposed the drainage system in Quetta, the capital of Balochistan province. Heavy rainfall brought joy to the people living in posh areas of the city, whereas, woes to people living in poor neighborhoods and marginalized areas. A heartbreaking video of two teenage boys being swept away in the rainwater in Quetta's Sariab Road area was widely shared on social media. This really pained every sane person.

Hundreds of heartbreaking images of rain survivors were shared on social media outlets. This simply exposed the system in general and Quetta's drainage system in

Rains-related incidents claim 7 lives

Rains-related incidents claimed seven precious human lives as per the statistics shared by the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA). Women and children were also among the dead. PDMA's media managers were sharing videos of their operations when people were facing the brunt of heavy rainfall in various parts

Most streets and roads in poor neighborhoods of Quetta were inundated by the rainwater. It was not possible for the people to walk or drive on roads completely

Billions of rupees were spent but with no impact

Billions of rupees have been spent on the drainage, construction of roads, bridges, beautification and master plan of the city. However, one hour's heavy rainfall exposed all claims on behalf of the concerned departments.

Thousands of people have settled in the middle of nullahs/waterways over the years without the permission of the Metropolitan Corporation. MCQ appears to be a silent spectator when it comes to people constructing their houses on waterways. PDMA has rather become a ghee and sugar distribution agency rather than coping

with natural disasters in Balochistan. Rainfall also exposed the traffic system

Rainfall has also exposed the traffic plan of the city. Nevertheless, the traffic policemen and Seargent deserve to be appreciated for ensuring the flow of traffic as streets and roads were giving an image of river flooding.

Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Quddus Bizenjo must have mercy on the provincial capital, which houses around 3 million people. Beyond political and personal interests, the provincial government should improve the drainage system, stop illegal settlements on waterways, ensure transparency in funds allocated for the construction of roads, bridges and etc.

Rainy water needs to be reserved to maintain the depleting water table in Quetta and other parts of Balochistan.

debt, as a share of GDP, is well below its peak at the beginning of the neoliberal era. The Economist calculates, for instance, that 27 per cent of US GDP was

A society under stress

However, this has start-

While we know about the level of political dichotomy in the country and the hatred that has crept up between political parties and their supporters with the use of the most abusive language at times on social media and even on television, we need to think about the other strains which are tearing our

society apart. Pakistan was once a which society strongly united - during the 40s and 50s - and for longest time. Muslims, Christians, Hindus, and other groups celebrated events together and maintained good relations. This somewhat ended under the General Ziaul Haq era when hatred seeped into schools, offices and other places, with discriminatory laws coming against specific minority groups, and a general feeling of difference was created

We see the impact of hatred today. Children from minority groups attending missionary schools say that they do not have Muslim friends. This is a loss to them and the Muslim children who see less diversity in their society and little understanding of the groups they live with. At one charitable school run for children

we have parents complaining that Muslim children should not be exposed to the slightly different Christian culture which they believe will have a negative effect on their children's morality.

Again, in the 1980s. such feelings were non-All schoolexistent. going children, regardless of their religion, would play together, and there was little sense of difference with birthday parties attended by both groups - Christians and Muslims - and there was no consciousness of cultural differences which did exist but were widely accepted. Today this has changed.

Even adult Christians say that they have few Muslim friends and gensocialize only within their community. Even though Pakistan's minority groups make up over two per cent of the population, such differ-ences are even more unfortunate especially when we consider the fact that Christians and Muslims in Punjab live in close proximity to each other In Sindh, Hindus and Muslims have enjoyed excellent relations in Tharparkar and other places where they lived together for the longest time.

ed to change as many Hindu families are trying to flee the country which, in the words of its founder, was created for all religious groups and intended as a place where all of them were free to follow their reli-gions and live in harmony. While we criticize India frequently for the terrible events that are taking place there and the genocide against Indian Muslims, we should also look within although we are fortunate that we have not yet reached the same hatred levels as are seen in India, with the governsentiments under the BJP.

But we still witness murder and lynching cases of various kinds, with Christians burnt to death on allegations of blasphemy without any trial, young Hindu girls forcibly converted and married off to far older Muslim men, and Sikhs made to feel uncomfortand Ramazan and Muharam asked not to lay out the feasts they traditionally offered to their Muslim brethren, and in case of violence in some areas, they are forced to pay 'jazia' and impelled to move out of the area or even leave the country.

This of course is Pakistan's loss and the loss of future generations. The more diversity we have the richer our country will be.

We must also recognize that the same kind of division exists on the basis of ethnicity with divisions between the Baloch and Punjabi communities and other groups. A ban placed on Balochi and Sindhi nationalist websites dur-ing the Musharraf era, which has continued into the present age, does not help matters. Even if we do not agree with their views, we should allow these people to express what they feel and how they think. If this is not allowed, the differences will keep growing as will hatred and the feeling of divide and differ-

ence. example of what hatred can do. We have also seen the horrors of a hate-filled society in our country. We must act against the growing division and build a more united society. A few children attending some Christian schools where Muslims are also admitted say that they are encouraged to be friends with everyone, and anyone pointing out any kind of differences with another group is called up for disciplinary action. This is commendable. These stu-dents say that they are generally able to make friends with Muslims as as Christians, regardless of their religion. This is also true of other schools, but divi-sions and differences do exist. In some colleges, Hindu girls are isolated completely because of their religion with only a few conscious teachers and students attempting to help them out of their

By Kamila Hyat

isolation. These barriers need to be brought down. This includes the barriers based on ethnicity and those based on religion. Both are dangerous and can have an extremely adverse impact on the country. We are already seeing this impact as groups such as the TLP spread more hatred.

We welcome efforts made to do so at some schools, including missionary schools set up in Youhanabad and other areas. But more effort and action is required. No act of violence against any person on the basis of his or her religion or ethnicity should be tolerated. Yet we hear of such actions even at elite education institutions of higher learning both in Punjab and other places.

A capitalist supernova?

By John Smith

Excerpted: 'Are We Heading Towards a Capitalist Supernova?'. Global debt – of households, firms and governments reached a staggering \$305tn (254tn GBP) in 2021, up from \$83tn in 2000.

Furthermore, global debt now equals 355 per cent of global GDP, up from 120 per cent in 1980 and 230 per cent in

The events we are witnessing mirror the dynamic that kicked off

our current phase of cap-italism in the first place. In 2021, debtors of all types handed \$10.2trn – 12 per cent of global GDP – in interest payments to their creditors. In comparison, the annual income of the poorest 50 per cent of humanity is just 8.5 per cent of GDP.

Global debt has grown twice as fast as global GDP since 1980 and is accelerating, while glob-al GDP growth is slow-ing and threatening to go

into reverse. While global debt has rocketed, global interest rates have been in almost continual decline since 1980. So low have interest rates fallen since the global financial cri-sis of 2008 that, by 2021, \$17trn of bonds were trading at negative interest rates, even before inflation is taken into account. That's \$7trn more than the figure that astounded Bill Gross in 2016, referenced at the beginning of this article.

As a result, interest on

swallowed by interest payments in 1989, but only 12 per cent of it in 2021, despite the mas-sive growth in US debt. But the world of everlow interest rates has now come to an end. The decision of the US Federal Reserve on 15 June to hike interest rates by 0.75 per cent the sharpest increase in nearly three decades, with the promise of

more to come - sent shockwaves around the world and has wiped trillions of dollars off the values of stock and bond markets.

Any rise in interest rates means a huge shift of purchasing power from indebted house-holds, firms and governments to their creditors. 'The Economist' calculates that a 2 per cent increase in US interest rates in 2021 would, by 2026, double the share of global GDP absorbed

by interest payments. Decades of ever-lower interest rates have inflated what Nouriel Roubini, one of the few economists to predict the 2007-8 financial crash, famously called "the mother of all asset bubbles, eventually leading to a bust, another massive financial crisis, and a rapid slide into recession.

However, a bubble is insubstantial and delicate, and bursts with

barely a sound. A far more appropriate and useful metaphor is that of a star, which is immense, and dies in a stupendous explosion As Bill Gross, the 'bond king', tweeted in 2016, "Global yields lowest in 500 years of recorded history. \$10 trillion of

negative rate bonds.
This is a supernova that will explode one day."
What has forced the Fed to aggressively raise its interest rate is the dramatic reagnerance. dramatic reappearance of a most feared moninflation. events we are witnessing mirror the dynamic that kicked off our current phase of capitalism in the first place.

The neoliberal era was inaugurated in October 1979 by a huge hike in US interest rates aimed at quelling entrenched and rampant inflation. The "Volcker shock", as the voicker shock, as it became known (after Paul Volcker, then head of the US Federal Reserve), was likened by journaiss Klein to "a giant Taser gun fired from gun fired from Washington, sending the developing world into convulsions... Higher interest payments on foreign debts... could only be met by taking on more loans. The debt spiral was born."

This hike in interest This hike in interest

rates succeeded in killing the inflation monster, but at the cost of a sharp recession in imperialist countries and a devastating debt crisis throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America. The

millions and forced these notionally independent countries to submit to the dictates of the 'Washington Consensus': wholesale privatisation, austerity and removal of obstacles to cross-border flows of capital and commodities

(but not of people!). Now the inflation monster has risen from the dead, prompting the Fed and other central banks to attempt to kill it again before it has had a chance to gain in strength. Thus the Bank for International
Settlements, which provides banking services
for the world's central
banks, has called on
them to "not be shy of inflicting short-term pain and even recessions to prevent any move to a persistently high-infla-tion world."

As a result, the debate has moved on from whether there will be a global recession to how severe it will be - and whether central banks really have the guts to carry out their threats and risk a global eco-nomic crash. Over the next 18 months we will

find out.

Why did Bill Gross liken global bond markets to a star about to explode? What are the changes that his predicchances that his predic-tion may come to pass? What would such a cataclysmic event actually mean in practice?

A star is a production process, in which heavier elements are fused out of lighter elements, releasing huge amounts of energy. When the

energy released by the fusion of lighter elements is insufficient to counter the gravity exerted by the growing mass of heavier elements, the star dies.

It either ends its life as a burned-out cinder or, if it is big enough, in a supernova, an extremely violent implosion that incinerates anything in its vicinity and scatters

debris throughout space
Will the coming crash
take the form of a brief
recession, or a long and
deep depression (as in
the 1930s) or something many magnitudes

Capitalism is also a production process, and the energy that fires it is living labour, performed by workers and farmers who produce more wealth than they con-sume. The surplus is converted into capital that is, self-expanding wealth, wealth that must either make profits or shrivel and die Capital, whether in the form of shares. and bonds, real estate or fine is, in the words of Which, is, in the words of Karl Marx, "dead labour which, vampire-like, only lives by sucking living labour, and lives the more, the more labour it sucks".

As with a star, when As with a star, when the mass of accumulated capital exceeds the capacity of living labour to breathe life into it, the moment of crisis has arrived, and swathes of capital are destroyed in a financial crash With the interest rate hikes, our moment of crisis has arrived But will.

Playing with dolls

Zorain Nizamani

tions! made have You history. now can freely marry an under-aged girl and legally get away with it. Bonus points, you might get the court to rule in your favour too. Our forefathers fought wars just to see us encourage (and dare I

say legalise) underage marriages. Let your wildest and darkest thoughts adorn your interior revel in all the possibilities that can further be explored. What's next, pedophil-

It evades all logic how the courts function despite an ossification test showing a Dua Zehra's bone age to be 16 or 17; it is unfathomable how the honorable judge has gone as far as to say that she is free to live with whoever she wants to. mean now that we're at it, why not legalise forced conversions

too But where does the problem lie though? How is it that we, as reasonable citizens, can tell something's wrong Why can't our Lords figure that out too? Dua Zehra is 16 or 17 and she's been allowed to marry and live with her 'husband'. Read that as many times as you want and try making peace with it. This is the best we've man-aged in 75 years of our country's existence and

we aren't stopping any time soon, we just might have more to offer. Mr Mohammad Ali Jinnah, eat your heart out.

Why are we slaves to formalities and to due process? Being a prac-tising lawyer for the past three years, I have noticed that something that can be resolved in a month generally takes years due to following the 'correct procedure' which adheres to the 'laws' laid down by those who ruled us more than 100 years ago. Why is it that we're so rigid and inflexible that we will only go by the book? Why can't we just form a medical board of independent doctors and let them decide if Dua Zehra is of legal age to marry? Why is that court hearings go

on for years and years until the claimants die? Why is that we aren't utilising the wonders of science to decide a question as simple as decoding someone's age? But well, on the flip side, Dua Zehra's case is a massive win for the predators, the sick minded, the dia-bolical pedophiles and for everyone who wishes to go down the deep-est pits of disgust and horror. Those who love to violate and fondle with no objection, the lonely souls with their emptiness fulfilled and the beings who crave the touch of young skin. No more do they

have to be left alone with their sanity, their primitive instinct does not require honing any more, because our system has allowed for you to marry a girl who is below 18. Yes, she can and will consent. No, you will not be questioned. We live in

a free country.

And for all those who have the audacity to concur with the judgement of the court and those who have been abusing the rheto-ric of 'let her live her life'. I ask you, imagine your underage daughter elopes, will you still adopt this rhetoric and let her 'live her life' or will you try and protect her because: a) she is incapable of giving consent; and b) child marriages are illegal. Don't be a hypocrite.

I haven't put forth my opinions here in almost a month but the judgement in Dua Zehra's case was an eye opener and it required being dissected. It was a testament to how we're flogging a dead horse. The system has failed and there is absolutely no way it will improve, unless it's reconstructed from the root. I am short on words on how Dua has been allowed to 'go wherever she wants', it just sets a massively dangerous precedent.

Our children our calling out our name, they're screaming at the top of their lungs,

How to break a vicious cycle [Part – II] By Ishrat Husain

t goes with-out saying that political stability is the sustained effort to achieve rapid and inclusive growth. The main drivers of such growth would be small farm agriculture, SMEs microenterprises, construction and low-cost housing, tourism, IT and IT enabled services, diversification and value addition in diversification

and value addition in exports.

Thus, the agenda proposed for the short, medium and long term should have a continuous chain, linking and consolidating the gains from these sectors and stimulating inter-sectoral synergetic impulstoral synergetic impuls-es over time. Continuity of these policies beyond the electoral cycle is an absolute must. There are multiple pathways to attain this kind of growth but the pre-ferred route to be chosen is the one that expands domestic productive capacity to meet the higher aggregate demand associated with rising per capita incomes, the relatively high propensity to cre ate productive jobs and support livelihoods, alleviate poverty, and reduce interpersonal and regional inequality Tough political decisions would be required from time to time. The time horizons described are not dis-crete as they would have spillovers but are continuous, interwoven in a chain that leads to the ultimate goal

Short-term Agenda 2022-24: The revival of 2022-24: The revival of non-inflationary, sustained and inclusive growth would span a much longer time period. What is presented in the following paragraphs is what can possibly be done in the next two-and-a-half-year time period with year time period with great concerted effort. We are fully aware that there will be elections in 2023 but the com-mitment of all political parties to this agenda is to be secured.

For this, first, raise the investment-to-GDP ratio by two percentage points every year, reaching 20 per cent by 2024. Public-sector investment along with public-private partner-ship should not only be stepped up but its quality and composition should be able to crowd in private sector investment. Bank credit-to-GDP ratio, particularly in the fixed investment component, has remained dismally low compared to our neighbouring countries and has to be doubled from the current level. Private equity, devel-opment finance institutions, IPOs, and debt capital markets have to play a crucial role in

financing private investment Second, increase productivity of small and medium sized farmers - particularly in wheat, sugar, cotton, oilseeds, live-stock products and - improve marpulses keting infrastructure, confine the role of gov-ernment to strategic reserves for managing

demand supply gap, and maintain price sta-bility. Provision of improved seed, fertilis-er, pesticides, small agricultural implements through targeted subsidies along with water resource use effi-ciency and credit to small farmers who constitute two third of the total farms can boost the national yields of crops. Veterinary serv-ices and artificial insemination would do the same for dairy and livestock. It is paradox-ical that a country with the largest irrigation system has to import food items and cotton amounting to almost \$10 billion. The impressive results in rice and maize crops show that government intervention in markets is to be avoided. R&D in the public sector needs to be integrated

and coordinated.
Third, continue focused attention on the construction and housing sector and tourism which would create jobs, induce activity in the allied industries, assist micro, small and medium enterprises and help low-income families in acquiring houses and expanding tourist facil-ities in Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the Makran Coast and Azad Jammu and Kashmir The domestic cement industry is not only expanding in response to demand within the country but also because of economies of scale it is able to export. The Pakistan Steel Mills

has to be made fully operational under priarrangement and expanded to three million ton capacity and, along with perform-ance linked incentives to manufacture quality products, will reduce dependence on imports. The engineering goods industry has remained stunted and should be incentivized to meet the local industrial demand or compete in Fourth, broaden the FBR and provincial tax

bases to attain tax-to-GDP ratio of 15 per cent (provincial taxes contributing three per cent from one per cent at present) through automation, data inte-gration and data analytharmonization, new surveys and valua-tion of properties, track and trace system, and minimizing interaction between taxpayer and between taxpayer and tax collector, gradually bring down the ratio of indirect taxes from 60 per cent of the total to 50 per cent; expedite income tax and sales tax refunds on the lines of FASTER without any human intervention any human intervention at any stage in the process Urban property tax is a huge potential that can be tapped if the powers to assess and collect this tax is devolved to municipal corporations. ike Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and Faisalabad can generate five to six times more than the present levels if they carry out cadastral surveys.

surveys,

properties

cadastral

revalue

annually and impose heavy penalties on nonutilization of plots. Taxes on the agricul-ture income of large landowners and revision of irrigation charges can prove to be a remunerative source of income for the provinces and also ensure efficient use of water resources that are getting scarce. The reliance on indirect taxes on goods and services is highly regressive and it needs to be replaced by direct taxes on income (irreproperty, capital gains, assets and inheritance. Fifth, revamp state-owned enterprises

enterprises SOEs) through restructuring, capital market sales, sales to strategic investors, mergers, liquidation, management contracts, wrong public-private partner public-private partner-ship to improve overall economic efficiency and maximize the returns to the excheq-uer. All the heads of these enterprises have to be recruited through an open competitive process and the candi-dates selected on the dates selected on the basis of merit, compensated well but held accountable for the results. The ministry heading this can set the performance agreeentertainment. There Charsadda performance agreements but not interfere ments but not interfere in day-to-day opera-tions. A comprehensive plan and strategy is already in place that has classified the commercial SOEs in two parts – those to be retained in public ownership for strategic or public. Whenever any

rowing up in Charsadda, as a young stu-dent we liked to repeat a joke everytime we came across any man with a beard who would either drive his car carelessly or indulge in some ridiculous act. The joke

was just four Pashto words but the story and history behind those words was common knowledge and so people understood the context everytime we uttered those words, which are Sheikh pa ghalata de. It translates literally as "the bearded one is in the

Attaullah Tarar sports a beard and shaves his mus-tache. Muslim men do this keeping in line with the seriousness and depth of their faith. However, he has indulged in uncouth and irreligious behaviour. Fathers who may have asked their sons and daughters to keep watching and reading news so as to prepare for the CSS exam must have felt very uncomfortable watching this public display of an act, which is usually the stuff of adult

another man indulges in some irreligious or immoral behaviour, the oft-repeated joke is that he is exempt from any repercussions because he holds the licence for being ridiculous and immoral, which is an indirect refer-

of chutzpah ence to his beard. It was a double-edged sword. One, anything the labeled pious did was right by default. Two, don't dare criticise the bearded ones as their self-righteous mindset is unstoppable and dangerous. Perhans and dangerous. Perhaps this second joke is more relevant here. Because we have kind of forgotten that the same Atta Tarar some weeks ago openly

threatened anyone who may dare call him a lota.

Public display

Public display of disrespect or profanity toward any faith or God is regarded as blasphemous. The people who adhere to the faith that is targeted the blasphemy feel humiliated and resentful. One could argue that faith is a sacred as well as a private matter because it is one human's connection and contract with his Creator. We can disagree with an act of blasphemy but we are not to judge someone's actions or validity of their faith because that work is reserved for our Creator.

An elected or a government official takes oath of office to protect a docu-ment where the rights of the people are enshrined. That is a contract between the official and the state as well as the people. Disgracing the Holy Book is wrong and immoral but that is for the Creator to punish not us because that is a violation of the relationship between man and his Creator Disgracing the sacred document called the Constitution is made with the people. Even the Holy Book Even the Holy Book emphasises on the rights of the people more than on the rights our Creator has over us. It is called Huqooq-ul-ibaad i.e. the rights of the people.
The bearded

spokesperson of the Punjab government has openly displayed filthy profanity for the very document document, which enshrines the rights the people have over him as a government official. It is not the violation of a specific right but rather the wholesale mockery of whatever rights the people may think they have.

Perhaps, this public display of chutzpah is coming from a greater belief of impunity. This middle finger is not only a mockery of the supposedly sacred document but also an indication of massive support from those who are usually in the business of raising the finger as a third umpire. Speaking of which, there was a lot of noise when Imran Khan some years ago had said that the third umpire had raised his finger. Somehow, there is not much noise at this fin-ger raising as if it is some sort of a halal finger.

The violation of the Constitution used to be benignly labeled as Doctrine of Necessity. That is obsolete now because now our politicians just middle finger the Constitution. Ah, those good of days!

Attock man

kills wife,

mother-in-law over domestic

dispute

ATTOCK: A man in Punjab's Attock killed his wife and mother-in-law over a dispute domestic on

According to police the inci-dent occurred in Ikhlas area of

Attock, where a man named Sadaqat Ali shot dead his wife and

The man also shot dead his father-in-law few days back, the police said and added raids were

underway for the arrest of the killer.

Earlier, a man killed three members of his family in Kohat over a

domestic dispute.

The dreadful incident took place in the erstwhile FR Jawaki area where a man gunned down his father, wife and daughter, local police officials said.

The reason behind the multiple killings is said to be a domestic dispute. Getting information about the incident, the police along with

the incident, the police along with the rescue teams reached the spot

and moved bodies to the nearby medical facility.INP

Woman dies as

she falls from

window of

moving bus in

Sakrand

mother-in-law and fled away.

domestic dispute.

03 NATIONAL

Major cut in petrol prices possible in Pakistan from August 16

ISLAMABAD: OGRA starts working on new summary which is likely to propose up to Rs15 drop in POL prices.

Possible decision to reduce petrol prices comes as rates of oil decline in international market.

Sources say govt may provide relief on account of cut in petroleum levy and other taxes.

The government may announce a major cut in the prices of petroleum products as the rates of oil decline in the international market and the dollar depreciates.
The Oil and Gas
Regulatory Authority
(OGRA) has started
working on a new summary which is likely to
propose up to Rs15 drop
in POL prices. Sources
privy to the matter said
that the government may
provide relief to the
masses on account of a masses on account of a cut in petroleum levy and other taxes. Once OGRA sends a summary to the finance ministry on August 13 to fix new prices, new rates will be announced on August 15 following the prime min-

ister's approval. The gov-ernment may announce a major cut in the prices of petroleum products as the rates of oil decline in the international market and the dollar depreciates. The Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) has started working on a new summary which is likely to propose up to Rs15 drop in POL prices Sources privy to the matter said that the government may provide relief to the masses on account of a cut in petroleum levy and other taxes.INP

Over 700 vocational education majors in China, 210 selected to introduce in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Among over 700 vocational education majors in China Tang International Education Group(TIEG) has selected 210 most needed ones to be intro-duced to Pakistan under "CCTE" model, according to a report published by China Economic Net

(CEN).
"CCTE", short for
"China-Pakistan Dual
Diploma/Degree & ChinaPakistan Cooperation, Chinese Language Courses & Commercial Chinese Cultural Technical Education Subjects & Technology in Education and Further Education & Employment", is a model developed by the educa-

tion group. Students participating in CCTE programs will learn in Pakistan for the first two years and in China for the third year before obtaining

degrees from both sides. ice officially launched in Pakistan in May 2021, Tang International Education Group has been facilitating Pakistan-China vocational education cooperation at a fast pace.

In Sinon, Monotechnic Institute Mehrabpur

province in June this year to jointly provide training electric engineering in collaboration with Yantai Vocational College. Earlier in May, Government Polytechnic Institute Dadu partnered with Hebei Professional College of Politics Science and Law to train computer information technology talents. In KP, Pak-Austria Fachhochschule Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology has signed an MoU with Chengdu University, China. Last December,

Polytechnic Institutes in Allama Iqbal and Taxila, and the University of Faisalabad inaugurated C h i n a - P a k i s t a n International College International College respectively Shenzhen ly with Institute of Information Technology (SZIIT), Guangdong Construction Polytechnic

and Bailie Vocational College Mr. Que Haitao, Vice Operation Center, Tang International Education Group told China Economic Net (CEN) that in a most recent development, the program between the University of Faisalabad and Bailie Vocational College has

started recruiting students. "The Higher Education Commission (HEC) is formulating and improving the policy for dual degree programs in Pakistan I look forward to the first China-Pakistan degree program officially approved by HEC which will be launched at Karakoram International University", said Dr. Ahmed, Chairman of Pakistan's HEC in a meeting with a delegation from Tang International Education Group led by Director & Executive President Max

According to the Chairman, there are 57 universities and colleges in Pakistan that are committed to vocational edu-cation. In the future, more will be transformed into

vocational institutes.
It is expected that the first China-Pakistan dual degree program officially approved by HEC will be launched at Karakoram International University to train talent in mining engi-neering which will neering, which will become a model for other Pakistani universities in providing more practical knowledge and experience



LAHORE: President Dr Arif Alvi being briefed about the establishment of Fatima Jinnah Institute of Dental Sciences.

KP govt wants inclusion in PM-formed Jirga over law and order situation

ISLAMABAD: Minister for KP Kamran Bangash on Friday said that the KP government was ready to talk to the federal government over law and order situation in Swat, and other areas of the province.
"We should also be made part

of the Jirga formed by the federal government," Bangash said statement, adding that although they do not accept the government established through 'foreign conspiracy' but they are still ready to sit with them for the people of the province.

He said that they will be part of any talks to address a national issue faced by country. "We are not against anyone rather

ISLAMABAD: The Federal

Investigation Agency (FIA) has

constituted more teams, expand-ing the scope of investigation

into the prohibited funding case

against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on Friday. According to details, the FIA

has constituted five investiga-tion teams to collect data and

record statements in Islamabad

we want relationship with US based on mutual respect," the KP education minister said.

It is pertinent to mention here that the federal government has announced a Jirga for talks over worsening law and order situa-tion in Swat, Miranshah and Mir Ali.

The government has formed a Jirga comprised of 16 members for talks with representatives of the people protesting in these areas

Prime Minister has formally approved the Jirga comprised of the leaders of the parliamentary parties. The political parties of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province would have representation in

the Jirga. Federal Minister for Defence,

Khawaja Asif has wrote a letter to all parliamentary parties leaders over the matter and the first session of the Jirga will be held at Durrani House in Bannu

on Friday (tomorrow).

Prime Minister Shehbaz
Sharif has constituted the Jirga,
comprises of the PDM and other parliamentary parties after consultation with JUI leader Akram Durrani.

The Jirga members will hold talks with the representatives of protesters and ensure end of road blocks and protest sit-in in

Mir Ali, sources said. The Jirga will comprise of the member parties of the PDM, People's Party, Jamaat Islami, Awami National Party and the NDM INP

SARKAND: A woman fell from the window of a moving passenger bus which was going to Karachi from Punjab near Sakrand

FIA constitutes more teams to National Highway on Friday. The woman was identified as Zareena (55). Her body has been shifted to Sakrand Hospital. probe PTI prohibited funding case

The woman's son Dilawar accused the driver of rash and careless driving which caused the accident and demanded his imme-Earlier in the day, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader and diate arrest. former Sindh governor Imran Ismail moved Sindh High Court

Dilawar alleged that the acci-dent occurred during the crossing

as the driver was over-speeding and the pressure brakes might have left her lose grip and she bounced out of her seat and fell down on the road from the window. A woman fell from the window of a moving passenger bus which was going to Karachi from Punjab near Sakrand

National Highway on Friday.
The woman was identified as
Zareena (55). Her body has been
shifted to Sakrand Hospital.
The woman's son Dilawar
accused the driver of rash and

careless driving which caused the accident and demanded his imme-diate arrest. INP

Chinese universities INP the first in the

RAWALPINDI: Former Interior Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed addressing press Conference in Lal haveli.

Pakistani mountaineer Shehroze Kashif has yet another feat to his credit

holds the record for climbing the world's 8,000 metre-plus (26,000 feet) mountains -- six months and six days --but Harila now has until

but Harila now has until

ISLAMABAD: Young Pakistani mountaineer Shehroze Kashif has won yet another laurel as he has scaled 8,080 meters high Gasha Broom-I mountain and has become the youngest mountaineer to reach the summits of 10 highest mountains in the world, thus breaking the record of UK's

Adriana Brownlee. 20-year-old Shehroze is the second Pakistani mountaineer to have climbed 10 peaks over 8, 000 meters high.

Norwegian woman climber on track to break recordNorwegian climber Kristin Harifa Kristin Harila has just three mountains left in her bid to climb the world's 14 "super peaks" in record time after successfully summiting Pakistan's Gasherbrum I,

officials said Thursday Nepali Nirmal Purja

ISLAMABAD: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has

expressed interest in con-

verting the existing pub-lic and private modes of transport into a cost-effi-cient, environment-friendly, and solar-pow-ered electric transporta-

tion system, reports WealthPK.

Requesting anonymity, an official from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment and Trade (KPBoIT) informed WealthPK that

the government is keen to

implement a cost-effi-

cient, environment-friendly, and solar-pow-

ered electric transporta-

early November to complete her quest and beat his time. Harila's latest successful summit was reported on her official social media pages and con-firmed by Karrar Hadri, secretary of Pakistan's

Alpine Club.

The second phase in Pakistan was very challenging and dangerous ever-changing weather conditions, being hit by a rock, illness and a very tight schedule," read a message on Harila's

Instagram page
"But here we are with
only three peaks
left."Five of the 14 super peaks are in Pakistan --including K2, the world's second highest mountain

He said if the project was successfully execut-

ed, it would be a game changer for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The proj-ect will not only lower the carbon footprint, but

also reduce the heavy imports of crude oil, the

official maintained. It is envisaged that the

plan will be implemented

in three phases. The first will focus on electrifica-

tion of public transport, followed by the launch of an e-taxi service, and

then moving to the elec-trification of private vehi-cles, he explained. The

Understanding (MoU) for

Memorandum

and the country has enjoyed a record-breaking climbing season this

Sajid Hussain, head of the tourism department in Gilgit Baltistan, told media they had issued about 1,780 permits for the ton peaks

the top peaks.
"It has boosted our tourism and has increased our foreign exchange," he said Only around 40 peo-ple in history have summited all 14 of the super peaks, but none have come close to Purja's 2019 expedition.

He demolished the pre-vious record for accomplishing the feat with sup plemental oxygen, set by Poland's Jerzy Kukuczka in the 1980s at seven years, 11 months and 14 days.In an interview earlier this year, 36-year-old Harila said she was inspired to show women were as capable INP

KP to implement solar-powered

transport system: WealthPK

the project was signed earlier this year during the Dubai Expo. Earlier, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Economic

Zones Development and

Zones Development and Management Company (KP-EZDMC) – a subsidiary of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government – also announced that the company was going to solarize all the special economic zones

special economic zones under the 'Green Khyber

Pakhtunkhwa initiative' of the provincial govt. A first of its kind, the

Green Khyber Pakhtunkhwa initiative

will initially switch three economic zones over to

solar energy and in the

Green

Ahmad Awais

again takes

charge as AG

LAHORE: Ahmad Awais has once again taken charge as the advocate general of Punjab province,

Sarfraz Cheema as the governor of the Punjab

Punjab government has once again elevated Ahmad

Awais to the slot after Hamza Shahbaz was removed as the chief minister following orders from the Supreme Court and election of Parvez Elahi to the slot.

On May 30, Ahmad Awais tendered his resignation from the position of Advocate General of Punjab and

said that he could not continue performing his duties in

the current scenario.

Awais said that he could not continue his duties as

the AG Punjab anymore and he will submit his resigna-

tion just after the new governor assumes office.
The senior lawyer Ahmad Awais had performed his duties as AG Punjab from 2018 to 2019. He had been

appointed again to the same position on July 29 – 2020. Earlier, the Punjab government led by Chief Minister

Hamza Shahbaz had issued a notification to stop Awais

Heavy showers in

Karachi on

August 13 and 14: PMD

KARACHI: The metropolis may witness heavy showers on August 13 and 14 under the prevailing

According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), monsoon currents from the Bay of

Bengal are penetrating central and lower parts of the

A westerly wave is also present in the upper and western parts of the country, it added. The PMD said that rain-wind/thundershower is expected in most parts of Sindh, Balochistan, while at isolated places in Kashmir, south Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit-Baltistan.

Heavy falls are also likely in Sindh and Balochistan on Fiday The Met Office added that rain-wind/thun-

on Friday. The Met Office added that rain-wind/thun-dershower is expected in most parts of Sindh, Balochistan, while at scattered places in south Punjab,

however at isolated places in upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan on Saturday. Heavy falls are also likely in Sindh and

special (SEZs)

solarization of

economic zones will not only

enhance the business cli-

mate of the province, but

also provide an uninter-

rupted power supply to the economic zones.

Energy is the main fac-tor in the industrial sec-

tor, which determines the cost of production. The solar energy has a lower cost of production com-pared to the conventional

way. Thus, cutting the cost of production will make the domestic indus-

tries competitive against the other countries Besides attracting domes-tic and foreign investors

to the province INP

Balochistan during the period INP

next phase, all economic zones will be converted to solar energy.

WealthPK research indicates that the compa-ny will install lo-megawatt solar energy

plants in three economic

zones as part of the initia-tive. These plants will be installed in the Bannu, Jalozai, and Karak eco-nomic zones. The elec-

tricity generated by the solar plants would be fed

to the enterprises operat-ing within these zones.

As a result of the initia-

tive, several benefits will

be made available, and the top benefit is the

enhancement of competi-

tion in the local industry

WealthPK

research

from performing duties INP

monsoon system.

country.

ionths after he resigned following removal of

and the other four provinces.

Deputy Director Amna Baig
will head the probe team in the
federal capital, which includes
Ajmal Siddique, Sardarullah
Babar, Asghar Ali Baloch,
Rehana Kausar, and Arbab Abbasi. A four-member probe team in

Balochistan Muhammad

Muhammad Rashid Bhatti, Afroz Ahmed Kalwar and Raja

Muhammad Imtiaz.
Meanwhile, a five-member
team in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
(KPK) will be headed by Deputy
Director Mohammad Aftab Butt. The team includes Afzal Khan Muhammad Tahir, Irfanullah and Saima Nadeem.

and Saima Nadeem.

Moreover, Deputy Director
Rabia Qureshi will head the
five-member probe team of
Sindh Zone One. Rauf Sheikh,
Sabeen Ghori, Aftab Vito and
Rahat Khan are part of the team.

The probe team of Punjab
Zone One will be headed by
Deputy Director Mian Amir
Iqbal. The team includes
Muhammad Yusuf, Shahid Ali
and Irfan Khan.

prohibited funding case. Imran Ismail was summoned by FIA to probe into PTI foreign funding case after the ECP announced its verdict.

(SHC) against FIA's notice in a

announced its verdict.

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and Irfan Khan.INP

Hafizabad father accuses employers of raping, killing his teenage girl

: The father of a slain teenage girl who used to work as a domestic help has requested the court to exhume her grave accusing his daughter's employers of raping and murdering her.

A man belonging to Pindi area of Hafizabad whose daughter used to work as a domestic help filed a petition in the magistrate court on Friday seeking exhumation of the grave of

In his petition, the father accused the employers of his daughter of poi-

He stated that police did not act on his complaint, nor did they arrest the accused. INP

Pakistan reports highest COVID-19 deaths in over 5 months

ISLAMABAD

The last time coron avirus death toll rose this

ratio also witnessed a slight rise as 624 new

far to 1,561,579 Meanwhile, 1,068 patients suffering from coronavirus recovered as

After the new deaths and recoveries, Pakistan's active case count moved to 9,256.INP

Sheikh Rasheed says Pakistan heading towards 'political instability'

RAWALPINDI: Former interior minister and Awami Muslim League chief Sheikh Rasheed on Friday said Pakistan is heading towards 'political instability.'In series of tweets, Sheikh Rasheed said political differences and hate have become a threat to national security Criticism and mocking are two different things, he added Terming poverty, the biggest problem of the country, the former interior minister said the incumbent rules have increased the number of cabinet mem-

soning and then burying her.

He alleged that the accused raped her and when she got pregnant, they gave her poisonous pills and killed

S.No Class of Object

Pakistan saw a sudden surge in the daily COVID-19 death count as Il more people suc-cumbed to the virus overnight, National Institute of Health, Islamabad's (NIH) data showed Friday morning.

high was on March 3.
Meanwhile, the country's COVID-19 positivity

stight rise as 624 new infections were detected during the last 24 hours.

The new cases took the positivity rate to 3.83% and the number of total COVID-19 cases surfaced for for to 1.561.579

bers despite the crunch economic situation of the country.INP

his slain 15-year-old daughter.

TENDER NOTICE

The Balochistan Institute Child Health Services Quetta invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. TSE-222308118191 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required.

Tender Fee Bid Security Medical Equipment and Accessories NotRequired 2% (Total Item(s) Count: 4)

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules 2014. Eligibility of Bidders; 3 Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity Turn over of at least 20,000,000 PKR Amount in 3 Subsequent Previous Years. Presence in Active Tax Payer List. Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Bidder must submit the following undertaking on an attested affidavit of PKR: 100/- from Bidder having following undertaking: a) Bid Validity Compliance (90 Days) b) Delivery Period Compliance (90 Days) c) Non-Black Listing d) Price Reasonability e) Compliance of warranty period. f) Agreement with all terms & conditions g) Agreement of operations of plant during the warranty period. the firm must be registered with anyone of following: Registrar of Firms / SECP. Chamber of Commerce bid security @2 % (amount erased) of quoted items by the firm /bidder(copy of CDR/Bank guarantee) Bidder Must mention in technical Bid the Make ,Model, Country of Manufacturer and Country of Manufacturing Bidders must have office and workshop in quetta bidders must have relevan test tools and calibration tools in quetta office bidder must have one graduate engineer (biomedical /electronics) at quetta office Certificate of the Manufacturer to ensure after sales and services during post warranty period irrespective of further affiliation with the bidder bidder must be sole authorized distributor Procedure Of Procurement Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee, Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gob.pk Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gob.pk Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 30 August, 2022 till 11:30 PM through supplier dashboard. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:30
AM on EPPS System Address: BICHSQ Quary road Quetta Phone no: 3337666375 Fax no: 0812823712 Email: habibullahbabar00@gmail.com

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Chief Executive Officer Balochistan Institute Child Health Services Quetta





الواله قبري كے فحت كشنر فلات ذوح أن بمقام خلدارارا في مخصّ سَيْضُ 6 لينذا يكوز بش اليك 1894 اور بوالد المر ذَا كَى وَلِيكِيشِنْ فِبر 7582-88/3(4)/Land/RB مودند 9 اكت 2022 كَقْتُ جو مكانات أمليه جات قالى كاشت باء قال كاشت أغمر اراضي وغيره ضرو لبر 64/1 موضع آخرك كياته براسة القير كريز وعيش كياته رائة كوزوالينزك سيا في كوني (كيسكو). 2- جبال بسطابق علم كشفر قلات دُورِيْن بحقام فضدارب يحيَّن 1 سيكن ٤ لينذا كجوز يفن اليك 1894 كي قت منعلة اراشي برقائل فل دوكي . 3 - لبذا اب كشتر قلات ذوج أن كوتفويش كرده القيارات مب يجيش 1 سيخش 6 لينذا مكازيش ا يك 1894 بايت صول ارامتي فري كشرقات كومايت كى جاتى بير كروه بيكشن 7 لينذا مكوزيش اليك 1894 كتر قصة حصول اراض عمل بين الأبي جائد. 4. لهذا ال بت وقتر فيا كي فيلكيش كقت بدريدا شجار بداهام الناس اوران عفرات كوجوا متراض كرية كان تاج عار كلة ير) واطلاع دى جاتى بكروواس اشتيارك شائع ول ك جدره (15) الام كاندراندراية اعتراضات وفتر والى الشرقات اصان من الرين مقرده نارخ الزرف على بعد كونى مدر أول فين كى باليكل عربيه معلومات وتنسيل ع

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الله وفتر فيدالا يروهن كريد عاكري-

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First China-Pakistan dual degree program will be launched soon: Dr. Mukhtar

ISLAMABAD: "The Higher Education Commission (HEC) is formulating and improving the policy for dual degree programs in Pakistan. I look forward to the first China-Pakistan dual degree program officially approved by HEC which will be launched at Karakoram International University".

This was stated by Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman of Pakistan's HEC in a meeting with a delegation from Tang International Education Group led by Director & Executive President Max Ma, according to China Economic Net (CEN).

There are 57 universities and colleges in Pakistan that are committed to vocational education. In the future, more will be transformed into vocational institutes.

It is expected that the first China-Pakistan dual degree program officially approved by HEC will be launched at Karakoram International University to train talent in mining engineering, which will become a model for other Pakistani universities in providing more practical knowledge and experience in cooperation with Chinese universities.

with Chinese universities.

HEC Chairman added, that the Commission highly values the role of vocational education in training and developing skillful technical talents in Pakistan to meet future needs. He expects that more Chinese disciplines will continue to be introduced to Pakistan through the program to enhance the local vocational and technical

Among the over 700 vocational education majors in China, Tang International Education Group has select-



QUETTA - Balochistan Parliamentary Secretary for Minority Affairs Khalil George addressing on the ceremony in connection with World Minority Day.

Angry residents attack KE office over prolonged loadshedding

KARACHI, : Frustrated by pro-longed and unannounced loadshed-ding, angry residents of Sachal Goth marched towards the K-Electric (KE) office and attacked it.

According to details, residents of Sachal Goth marched towards the K-Electric (KE) office located at the Madaris Chowk and attacked it.

The protestors pelted stones at the

The protestors pelted stones at the KE office and broke windows of its vehicles. On their way to the office, the protestors also burnt tyres against the prolonged loadshedding.

Meanwhile, residents of Gulshan-e-Hadeed has also stated a protest in

Hadeed has also staged a protest in front of the K-electric office over unannounced and prolonged power outages. The protestors, including traders and women, chanted slogans against the government and KF.

against the government and KE.

Meanwhile, the Gulshan-e-Hadeed
police reached the scene and told the protesters to disperse. However, they refused to end the protest INP

Police arrest two nominated suspects in Layyah gang rape

MULTAN: Police on Friday claimed to have arrested two suspects in a case involving gang-rape of a girl who was also filmed during the horrific episode in Layyah.

Police while sharing details of investigations in the gang-rape case said that seven suspects were nominat-

said that seven suspects were nominat-ed in the case and they have so far

arrested two of them.

The spokesman for Punjab police said raids are being carried out to arrest the other suspects. "We have also sent samples of the victim to the forensic lab for the DNA," they said.

It has been reported previously that

It has been reported previously that the father of the girl has approached the local police claiming that nearly a dozen suspects took her daughter to an unidentified place near the Thal Medical College on August 5 at gunpoint, gang-raped and tortured her and shot the footage of the gruesome inci-

The Layyah police registered a case and formed police teams to arrest the suspects.INP

Argentinian Rear Admiral appointed as chief of UNMOGIP

NATIONS: Admiral Guillermo Pablo Rios of Argentina has been appointed as Head of Mission and Chief Military Observer for the United Nations
Military Observer Group in India
and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), which
monitors the Line of Control (LoC)
in the disputed Jammu and
Kashmir, it was officially
approunced Thursday.

Kashmir, it was officially announced Thursday.
As per the UN announcement, Rear Rear Admiral Rios succeeds Major General Jose Eladio Alcain of Uruguay, who will shortly complete by accomment. plete his assignment

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, who announced the appointment, said he was grateful to Major General Alcain for his contribution to United Nations peacekeeping efforts.

Rear Admiral Rios has had a dis-tinguished career in the Rear Admiral Rios has had a distinguished career in the Argentinean Navy since 1988, when he graduated from the Navy Academy as Middleshipman, according to the UN. Most recently, he served as the General Director of Education, Training and Doctrine of the Joint Staff (2022). Prior to this, he was Marines Infantry Commander (Corps Commander) (2020-2021), Marines Infantry Fleet Commander (Brigade Fleet Commander (Brigade Commander) (2019), Education Department Chief, Navy Warfare School (2018), and Defence, Military, Naval and Air Attaché in the Russian Federation (2016-2018).

He was a Training Officer in a US Marine Corps Regiment under a US and Argentine Marines Exchange Programme (2002-2003).INP

Harmful novel tobacco products are a threat to Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: The Society for

ISLAMABAD: The Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child (SPARC) organised an event titled "Independence from tobacco" to celebrate International Youth Day 2022.

The Speakers shed light on the importance of banning novel tobacco products and highlighted that these products are biggest threats for younger generations as tobacco industry is finding new ways of manipulating our youth. Studded with false advertisement and carcinogens (cancer causing and carcinogens (cancer causing chemicals), these products are presented as nicotine pouches,

presented as nicotine pouches, gums and lozenges.

Dr. Shazia Sobia Aslam Soomro, Parliamentary Secretary, Federal Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination (NHSR&C) said Pakistan is lucky to have a majority of population in youth; 61 million of youngsters are an asset for our country and the government our country and the government realizes that. We will not let any industry deliberately target our youth to put their future in jeop-ardy. She appreciated SPARC for educating the youth on malicious

and also giving youth a platform to share their stories with policy-makers. She also assured to raise voice in parliament for legislation

practices and harmful products

regarding novel products.

Mirza Nasir Ud Din Mashhood
Ahmad, Special Secretary, Federal
Ministry of NHSR&C expressed
concerns that 1200 children beginning smoking daily and 170,000 people dying due to tobacco induced diseases every year. He stated that the tobacco control cell at the ministry is active and we encourage parliamentarians, civil society, academia and media to collaborate with us in countering the sales and promotion of emerging tobacco products to children and youth.Malik Imran Ahmed, Country Head, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids (CTFK), mentioned that in order to attract youth, tobacco industry is engaging youth icons such as famous ing youth icons such as famous musicians, actors and models for paid social media content. The extensive online campaigns on almost all social media platforms are also a proof that these products are targeted at youth. INP

Pakistan says UNSC has become 'cloistered', calls for improving its working methods

UNITED NATIONS: A senior President, denied Pakistan an Pakistani diplomat has called for restructuring the UN Security Council's 'penholder system" that gives a Council member control over the agenda and drafting of a resolution.

He said the 15-member body was being used by some for geostrategic reasons, putting into question its role to act "on behalf of all UN member states"

"Penholder system in essence enables the holder of the pen to take leadership over a situation on the agenda of the Council and to control the structure and core content of a resolution that does not represent the view of UN's wider membership," Ambassador Aamir Khan, acting permanent represen-tative to the UN, said, while citing the August 2021 incident when India, as the Security Council opportunity to address the Council as a neighbouring country with a direct stake in peace Afghanistan.

Such was the case of Security Council's meeting on Afghanistan last year when the President of the Council prevented Pakistan from participating in the Council meeting despite all other members of the Council agreeing to Pakistan's participation at that meeting," he told delegates in an Arria-Formula meeting, convened by Russia, on Thursday.

The format is named after a former Venezuelan ambassador to the UN, Diego Arriva. It is a very informal consultation process which affords members of the Security Council the opportunity to hear persons in a confidential informal setting INP

India troops targeting youth to suppress Kashmiris' struggle

ISLAMABAD: The Indian troops, under black laws, are openly targeting, arresting and killing innocent Kashmiri youth during cordon and search operations and fake encounters across the startings of the search operations. the territory to suppress the Kashmiris' ongoing struggle for securing their right to self-

determination. According to a report released by Kashmir Media Service on the occasion of International Youth Day, today, Indian forces are brutally mur-Indian forces are brutally murdering Kashmiri youth for
demanding their just rights,
including the right to self-determination and plebiscite, under
the supervision of the United
Nations. It said, the world is
commemorating International
Youth Day but youth in the
occupied territory are being targeted, killed and arrested under geted, killed and arrested under black laws by Indian troops and police personnel on a daily basis. The report pointed out that the Indian troops had inten-

while over 96,100 Kashmiris, mostly youth, had fallen to the Indian bullets since 1989 till

date in IIOJK.
"Modi-led Indian regime must understand that no amount of brutalization, mili-tary might and anti-Kashmiri policy will be able to subjugate policy will be able to subjugate the Kashmiris. India can kill Kashmiri youth but it cannot defeat their stand and senti-ment on Kashmir resolution. The Kashmiri youth are deter-mined to continue their strug-gle till complete success," it gle till complete success," added INP

sified fake encounters and extra-judicial killings of Kashmiri youth in so-called cordon and search operations since 5th August 2019 when Modi-led fascist Indian govern-ment repealed its special status

ment repealed its special status and imposed military siege in the territory.

It said that the Indian troops martyred 146 Kashmiri youth and arrested over 800 this year while over 80 this year

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani exchanging views with Ambassador of Brazil Olyntho Vieira at Parliament House.

ed 210 most needed ones to be introduced to Pakistan under "CCTE" model.

"CCTE", short for "China-Pakistan Dual Diploma/Degree & China-Pakistan Cooperation, Chinese Language Courses & Chinese Commercial Cultural Courses, Technical Education Subjects & Technology in Education and Further Education & Employment", is a model developed by the education group. Students participating in CCTE programs will learn in Pakistan for the first two years and in China for the third year before obtaining degrees from both sides.

Since officially launched in Pakistan in May 2021, Tang International Education Group has been facilitating Pakistan-China vocational education cooperation at a fast pace.

In Sindh, Government Monotechnic Institute (GMI), Mehrabpur became the first in the province in June this year to jointly provide training on electric engineering in collaboration with Yantai Vocational College.

Earlier in May, Government Polytechnic Institute Dadu partnered with Hebei Professional College of Politics Science and Law to train computer information technology talents.

In KP, Pak-Austria Fachhochschule Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology has signed an MoU with Chengdu University, China. Last December, Polytechnic Institutes in Allama Iqbal and Taxila, and the University of Faisalabad inaugurated China-Pakistan International College respectively with Shenzhen Institute of Information Technology (SZIIT), Guangdong Construction Polytechnic and Bailie Vocational College.INP

Pakistan, Turkiye ink Preferential Trade Agreement

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Turkiye on Friday inked the Preferential Trade Agreement aimed at boosting trade in goods between the two countries.
Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif witnessed the inking of the PTA at a ceremony held here at the PM Office, as the visiting Turkish Trade Minister Dr. Mehmet Mus and Minister for Commerce Syed

Naveed Qamar signed the accord. Commonly known as Trade in Goods Pact, the PTA includes comprehensive provisions on bilateral safeguards, balance of payment exceptions, dis-

pute settlement, and periodic review of the agree-Prime Minister Sharif in his remarks termed the agreement "a great moment and a milestone" in the brotherly and historic relations between Pakistan and Turkiye.

He recalled that following his official visit to Turkiye in May, the untiring efforts of the min-istries of both sides resulted in the signing of the

He said immense business opportunities existed between the two countries and expressed confidence that the accord would further explore the

trade avenues in diverse sectors.

The prime minister said Pakistan would continue to work with Turkiye on strengthening bilateral

Hamza files review appeal against SC decision in Punjab CM election case

LAHORE: Former Chief Minister Punjab Hamza Shahbaz on Friday filed a petition in the Supreme Court (SC), praying to the court to review its July 26, 2022 decision in which it had declared the Punjab Assembly (PA) deputy speaker's ruling in the election for Punjab chief minister null and void.

Advocate Mansoor Ali LAHORE:

Advocate Mansoor Ali Awan submitted the peti-tion on Hamza's behalf In the petition, CM Pervaiz Elahi and former deputy speaker Dost Muhammad Mazari have been made parties in the

case.
The SC had on July 26, 2022 annulled the ruling given by the then Punjab Assembly deputy speaker
Dost Mazari's in the runoff election for the Punjab
CM.
On July 22, Mazari had
rejected the votes of
Pakistan Muslim League-

Quaid (PML-Q) members of the Punjab Assembly (MPAs) in the favour of Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi during the provincial chief minister election cit-ing a letter from PML-Q's head Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain under Article 63-

A of the constitution, The apex court, in its 11-page short order, accepted the plea of Elahi and pronounced him as Punjab chief minister.INP

Imran Ismail moves SHC against FIA notice in prohibited funding case

KARACHI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader and former Sindh governor Imran Ismail on Friday moved Sindh High Court (SHC) against FIA's notice in a prohibited funding case Imran Ismail was summoned by FIA to probe into PTI foreign funding case after the ECP announced its ver-

The Investigation Agency (FIA) has become active after the ECP verdict and had summoned sev-eral PTI leaders for the

probe. Thursday, the Peshawar High Court (PHC) stopped the Federal Investigation (FIA) from Agency (FIA) from investigating former National Assembly Speaker Asad Qaiser in the prohibited funding case. The ECP bench in (FIA) from ting former its reserved verdict said prohibited funding against PTI had been proven INP

business interaction for strengthening trade and investment relations between the brotherly coun-

Trade Minister Dr Mehmet Mus said the occasion

marked a significant milestone which would con-

tribute in a long way to further strengthening and

He said meeting expectations of all stakeholders was not easy, however added that dedication and step-by-step measures led to conclusion of the

He thanked PM Shehbaz Sharif for his leadership to seal the agreement for the betterment of the two

countries and enhancing linkages between their

Pakistan and Turkey would open up new opportuni-

ties to boost bilateral trade across various sectors. He said Pakistan also looked forward to working towards materializing a Free Trade Agreement

(FTA) with Turkiye.

He stressed the need to increase business-to-

Syed Naveed Qamar hoped the PTA between

The key highlights of the trade concessions offered by both sides under the Agreement are as follows: (i) Turkiye had offered concessions to Pakistan on 261 Tariff Lines, which include key items of Pakistan's export interest to Turkiye from both agriculture and the industrial sectors. INP

Stocks gain 386 points on rupee appreciation

expansion of trade ties.

business communities.

ISLAMABAD: The benchmark KSE-

ISLAMABAD: The benchmark KSE100 index reversed its losses on Friday
on the back of the rupee's strong recovery and expected inflows.

According to the Pakistan Stock
Exchange (PSX) website, the benchmark index had gained 386.33 points, or
0.91 per cent, by 12:26 pm to reach
42,629.66 points.

On Thursday stocks snapped a five-

On Thursday, stocks snapped a five-day rally due to political noise and a hike in the power tariff.

However, the stocks started reversing losses shortly after trading opened

Ahsan Mehanti of Arif Habib Corporation said stocks showed "sharp recovery" on the rupee's appreciation and Finance Minister Miftah Ismail's statement that the United Arab Emirates

would invest \$1 billion in the PSX. Head of Research at Intermarket

Securities Raza Jafri said the rupee's

Securities Raza Jafri said the rupee's continued strengthening and news of the letter of intent being received from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are leading the stock market higher.

He was referring to a report published a section of the press which quoted finance ministry officials as saying that they expected an agreement on the letter of intent "any time soon".

Earlier today, the local currency jumped by Rs3.28 against the dollar in the interbank market to reach Rs215.6.

Director of First National Equities Limited Amir Shehzad also shared a similar view. He said a bullish trend

similar view. He said a bullish trend could be seen after the improvement in the rupee's value, and investors were pri-oritising energy stocks. Shehzad said the bullish momentum could continue into next week, adding that if the IMF tranche was received. INP



QUETTA - Provincial President Minorities' Alliance and other cutting cake in connection with celebrate 75 Independence Day on 14 August.

ADB calls for railways policy reforms

ISLAMABAD : The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has identified six policy reforms to strengthen the railway system in Pakistan and across the Central Asian Regional Economic

Cooperation (CAREC) region. It said that railways across the region must consider implementing key reforms that would make them more efficient and financially sustainable. A new study by the ADB assesses the state of CAREC railways and identifies

opportunities for investment, commer-cialisation, and reform.

By implementing key reforms, rail-ways across the region can help increase economic growth and improve the lives of ordinary people.

of ordinary people.
According to the study, Pakistan Railways has 466 locomotives and 16,159 freight wagons. Of them, 23% of locomotives and 24% of wagons are unserviceable.
The study read that most of the

The study read that most of the regional railways currently use accounting systems that do not follow internationally recognised commercial standards. These old systems cannot accurately measure the true financial per-

formance of railway entities or separate the financial performance of each busi-ness activity," it added. The region's railways must develop modern commercial accounting systems

that provide reliable and transparent real-time information about costs, reveau-time information about costs, revenues, and financial performance. Strengthening staff expertise in operating the system and using it to analyse railway performance is also crucial.

Furthermore, railways need to intro-

duce enterprise resource planning sys-tems to help them adopt more commer-cial approaches that would increase pro-ductivity and profitability.

"These systems also help railway planners to maintain an overview of

planners to maintain an overview or existing railway resources such as staff or rolling stock and determine more effi-cient ways of using them," the study read. "They can be used to determine the full cost of operating railway services and routes, which is necessary to opti-mise tariff levels and understand which routes are most profitchle. They are used routes are most profitable. They are used to monitor and improve productivity and asset utilisation, and ultimately increase profitability," it added INP

Opening Remarks for the Press Briefing by Foreign Office Spokesperson

ISLAMABAD: Let me begin by recalling the solemn observance of Youm-e-Istehsal on 5th August. The day was observed across the Pakistan to denounce the third year of Indian military siege of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) in the wake of India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2010 2019 and subsequent measures aimed at undermining the internationally recognized disputed status of Jammu and Kashmir, and to alter the demographic structure of the occupied territory.It was an occasion to reaffirm the nation's unwavering support for the just struggle of the Kashmiri peo-ple for their right to self-determina-tion. The Indian Charge d'Affaires (Cd'A) was called to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and conveyed the Government of Pakistan's unequivocal rejection of India's illegal and unilateral actions, which were in complete violation of the UNSC resolutions of India's interview. lutions on Jammu and Kashmir, inter-national law, and the 4th Geneva

A Solidarity Walk initiated from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was led by Foreign Secretary Sohail Mahmood. Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Minister of Defence and Qamar Zaman Kaira, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on Kashmir Affairs Prime Minister on Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit Baltistan joined the walk, and also addressed the participants.

The President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister sent out messages of solidarity Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addressed a compre-hensive letter to the President of the UN Security Council, President of the UN General Assembly, UN Secretary-General, and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and separate letter to the OIC Secretary-General regarding the alarming situa-tion in IIOJK. It was pointed out that, in accordance with UNSC resolution 122 (1957), all the unilateral actions taken by India on and after 5 August 2019 were not only illegal but, ipso facto, null and void INP